

Minutes of the Veneta City Council Work Session

March 23, 2005 - 5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Brooker, Darrell Carman, Ric Ingham, Margaret Boutell, Sheryl Hackett, Earle Ellson, Craig Harbison, Gino Galioto, and James Dean

Mayor Brooker called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m.

I. REVIEW OF SUMMARY REPORT - Thoughts & Comments

Darrell Carman said he has some concern that the City's visioning process could end up working at cross purposes with the Coordination group that has already been formed. In response, Mayor Brooker said the focus of the City's visioning process would be on the City whereas the Coordination group represents the entire Fern Ridge area.

James Dean said it would be wise to find some resources to hire someone like Dick Townsend to help the City with the visioning process. He felt that in the long run it would be more effective and the cost could possibly be covered by a grant. Earle Ellson agreed that would be a good approach to take. In response to a question, Ric said there may be grants available through the Ford Foundation and Rural Development Initiatives (RDI) may be able to provide help with a visioning process.

In response to a question, Ric said the next Fern Ridge Coordination group meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on March 31, 2005 at Veneta City Hall. James Dean volunteered to attend that meeting. Mayor Brooker said the Fern Ridge Coordination group will meet one more time with elected officials and then make arrangements for the groups to meet. He said the City still needs to establish it's own vision.

Darrell Carman pointed out that the City is just one of the stakeholders for the Fern Ridge Coordination group and cannot tell them what to do. The group agreed that the City needs to also have it's own vision and try to coordinate and integrate it with the larger Fern Ridge area group.

II. GOALS and PRIORITIES

Ric asked the group to begin with the Public Safety goal and work through the Strategies and actions for that goal.

III. STRATEGIES and ACTIONS

The group followed the format for establishing strategies and actions for Public Safety and agreed to the following:

STRATEGY #1 Adequate Police Coverage

ACTIONS: Assessment of current law enforcement coverage
 and needs (what type of risks and who is at risk?)
 Evaluate additional coverage for this next year
 Cost effectiveness study of present coverage
 Seek out alternatives

STRATEGY #2 Crime Prevention

ACTIONS: Support Neighborhood Watch
 Support Neighborhood Associations
 Crime Prevention Coordinator & Public Education
 and Awareness
 Youth Activities and Programs
 Increase number of high school graduates enrolling
 in local LCC program
 Increased communication between agencies

STRATEGY #3 Code Enforcement

ACTIONS: Identify the issues and what needs to be done
 Create a job description for code enforcement staff
 position.
 Engage volunteers to help elderly and disabled
 citizens with compliance
 Evaluate Municipal Court & Legal Assistance
 (staffing & funding)

STRATEGY #4 Increase street safety

ACTIONS: Increase pedestrian safety by providing sidewalks
 where none exist
 Provide adequate roadways in highly impacted areas
 Provide street lights and illumination
 Assess emergency vehicle access

PRIORITY: By consensus, the group chose the #1 priority strategy and action to
 be an assessment of the City's current law enforcement coverage
 and needs.

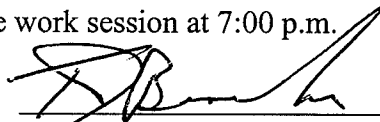
TIMERLINE: Establish the process prior to budget meetings.

IV. REPEAT PROCESS FOR REMAINING GOAL STATEMENTS

The group agreed additional meetings will be needed to establish strategies and actions
for the remaining goals.

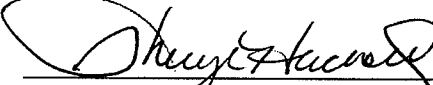
V. CLOSING COMMENTS - None

VI. ADJOURN - Mayor Brooker adjourned the work session at 7:00 p.m.



T. J. Brooker, Mayor

ATTEST



Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder